

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Michael BAUMANN

Serial No.: New

Filing Date: December 5, 2001

For: DEVICE FOR PRODUCING A PREDETERMINABLE VOLUME OF
PRECLEANED COMPONENTS OF SOLUTION MIXTURES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3 through 7 as follows:

3. (amended) Device, as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the device for preventing an effect on the flow rate is a valve (10).

4. (amended) Device, as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a back pressure regulator (10) is installed as the valve.

5. (amended) Device, as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the back pressure regulator includes a cylindrical housing, in which a sealing element (10c) can be pressed in the direction of the inflow opening of the housing by means of a helical spring (10b), which can be loaded by means of a setscrew (10a).

6. (amended) Device, as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a hose, which has a defined internal volume (measurement loop) and in which the volume of the fed-in solution mixture can be determined, is used as the metering device (2).

7. (amended) Device, as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a chromatographic column (8), through which the quantity of the solution mixture that is determined by the metering device (2) is passed through together with the carrier liquid (5), is used as the separator.

REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.**"

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

3. (amended) Device, as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], characterized in that the device for preventing an effect on the flow rate is a valve (10).

4. (amended) Device, as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], characterized in that a back pressure regulator (10) is installed as the valve.

5. (amended) Device, as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], characterized in that the back pressure regulator includes a cylindrical housing, in which a sealing element (10c) can be pressed in the direction of the inflow opening of the housing by means of a helical spring (10b), which can be loaded by means of a setscrew (10a).

6. (amended) Device, as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], characterized in that a hose, which has a defined internal volume (measurement loop) and in which the volume of the fed-in solution mixture can be determined, is used as the metering device (2).

7. (amended) Device, as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims], characterized in that a chromatographic column (8), through which the quantity of the solution mixture that is determined by the metering device (2) is passed through together with the carrier liquid (5), is used as the separator.